

## COUNTRY DATA: Guatemala: Information from the CIA World Factbook

### INTRODUCTION

The Mayan civilization flourished in Guatemala and surrounding regions during the first millennium A.D. After almost three centuries as a Spanish colony, Guatemala won its independence in 1821. During the second half of the 20th century, it experienced a variety of military and civilian governments, as well as a 36-year guerrilla war. In 1996, the government signed a peace agreement formally ending the conflict, which had left more than 100,000 people dead and had created, by some estimates, some 1 million refugees.

### GEOGRAPHY

<b>Location</b>	Central America, bordering the North Pacific Ocean, between El Salvador and Mexico, and bordering the Gulf of Honduras (Caribbean Sea) between Honduras and Belize
<b>Area</b>	<b>total:</b> 108,889 sq km country comparison to the world: 106 <b>land:</b> 107,159 sq km <b>water:</b> 1,730 sq km
<b>Climate</b>	tropical; hot, humid in lowlands; cooler in highlands
<b>Natural Resources</b>	petroleum, nickel, rare woods, fish, chicle, hydropower
<b>Total Renewable Water Resources</b>	111.3 cu km (2000)
<b>Freshwater Withdrawal</b>	<b>total:</b> 2.01 cu km/yr (6%/13%/80%) <b>per capita:</b> 160 cu m/yr (2000)
<b>Natural Hazards</b>	numerous volcanoes in mountains, with occasional violent earthquakes; Caribbean coast extremely susceptible to hurricanes and other tropical storms <b>volcanism:</b> Guatemala experiences significant volcanic activity in the Sierra Madre range; Santa Maria (elev. 3,772 m) has been deemed a "Decade Volcano" by the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior, worthy of study due to its explosive history and close proximity to human populations; Pacaya (elev. 2,552 m), which erupted in May 2010 causing an ashfall on Guatemala City and prompting

	evacuations, is one of the country's most active volcanoes; the volcano has frequently been in eruption since 1965; other historically active volcanoes include Acatenango, Almolonga, Atitlan, Fuego, and Tacana
<b>Environmental Issues</b>	deforestation in the Peten rainforest; soil erosion; water pollution
<b>PEOPLE</b>	
<b>Population</b>	13,824,463 (July 2011 est.) country comparison to the world: 69
<b>Ethnic Groups</b>	Mestizo (mixed Amerindian-Spanish - in local Spanish called Ladino) and European 59.4%, K'iche 9.1%, Kaqchikel 8.4%, Mam 7.9%, Q'eqchi 6.3%, other Mayan 8.6%, indigenous non-Mayan 0.2%, other 0.1% (2001 census)
<b>Religions</b>	Roman Catholic, Protestant, indigenous Mayan beliefs
<b>Languages</b>	Spanish (official) 60%, Amerindian languages 40% note: there are 23 officially recognized Amerindian languages, including Quiche, Cakchiquel, Kekchi, Mam, Garifuna, and Xinca
<b>Literacy Rate</b>	<b>definition:</b> age 15 and over can read and write <b>total population:</b> 69.1% <b>male:</b> 75.4% <b>female:</b> 63.3% (2002 census)
<b>Major Infectious Diseases</b>	<b>degree of risk:</b> high <b>food or waterborne diseases:</b> bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever <b>vectorborne disease:</b> dengue fever and malaria <b>water contact disease:</b> leptospirosis (2009)
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	
<b>Type</b>	constitutional democratic republic
<b>Independence</b>	15 September 1821 (from Spain)
<b>Constitution</b>	31 May 1985, effective 14 January 1986; suspended 25 May 1993; reinstated 5 June 1993; amended November 1993
<b>Legal System</b>	civil law system; judicial review of legislative acts; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction
<b>ECONOMY</b>	

<b>Agricultural Products</b>	sugarcane, corn, bananas, coffee, beans, cardamom; cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens
<b>Industries</b>	sugar, textiles and clothing, furniture, chemicals, petroleum, metals, rubber, tourism
<b>Import commodities</b>	fuels, machinery and transport equipment, construction materials, grain, fertilizers, electricity
<b>Import Partners</b>	US 36.46%, Mexico 10.49%, China 5.88%, El Salvador 5.14% (2009)
<b>Export Commodities</b>	coffee, sugar, petroleum, apparel, bananas, fruits and vegetables, cardamom
<b>Export Partners</b>	US 40.41%, El Salvador 11.2%, Honduras 8.48%, Mexico 5.86% (2009)
<b>Per Capita GDP</b>	<p>\$5,200 (2010 est.)</p> <p>country comparison to the world: 142</p> <p>\$5,200 (2009 est.)</p> <p>\$5,300 (2008 est.)</p> <p>note: data are in 2010 US dollars</p>
<b>Population below poverty line</b>	56.2% (2004 est.)

**\*CITATIONS:** All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.

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<b>General</b>	
Life Expectancy at Birth (in years)	70.8
Average number of years in School (in years)	4.1
Gross National Income Per Capita (In US Dollars)	4,694
<b>Gender Inequality</b>	
Female Seats in Parliament (%)	12.2
Population with at least a Secondary Education Female (% Of 25 and older)	16
Population with at least a Secondary Education Male (% Of 25 and older)	21.2
Labor Force Participation Female (%)	50
Labor Force Participation Male (%)	89.9
Births Attended by Skilled Health Professionals (%)	41
<b>Poverty</b>	
Population surviving on \$1.25 per day (%)	11.7
<b>Empowerment</b>	
Number of Journalists Imprisoned	0
Corruption Victims (% of people who face a bribe situation in the last year)	12
Political Engagement (% percent of people who voiced opinion to public officials)	23

<b>Sustainability</b>	
Fossil Fuels as Primary Energy Source (%)	45
Renewable Resources as Primary Energy Source (%)	54
Population without Access to Water (%)	6
Population Without Access to Sanitation Services (%)	19
Population affected by natural disasters (% between 2000-2009)	0.03
<b>Human Security</b>	
Number of Refugees leaving this country	5900
Number of Internally Displaced People in This Country	..
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)	16
<b>Demographics</b>	
Urban Residents (% of total Population)	49.5
<b>Health</b>	
HIV Prevalence in Female Youth (% ages 15-24)	1.5
HIV Prevalence in Male Youth (% ages 15-24)	...
HIV Prevalence in Adults (% ages 15-49)	.8
<b>Other</b>	
Official Development Assistance Per Capita (in US dollars)	39.2
Population without Electricity (%)	19.7

